

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
UTILITY DIVISION  
AGENDA NO. 02-11-19**

Date Published: November 14, 2002  
For Work Week Commencing: November 18, 2002  
Business Meeting: November 19, 2002, 9:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Steve Vick at (406) 444-6187. He may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

**Work Sessions** All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated.

1. D2002.6.64 – NorthWestern Energy – NorthWestern Energy/BPB Residential Exchange
2. D2002.10.130 – Proposed Sale by NorthWestern Energy of Certain Transmission Assets
3. D2001.10.144 , D2002.7.81 – House Bill 474 Repeal
4. D97.7.90, D2001.10.144 – Commercial Energy – Request to Compel NorthWestern Energy to make a filing on Electricity Restructuring, Rates and Rules as they Pertain to Customer Choice PSC – Interconnection Agreements
5. Town of Westby – Pipeline Safety Regulations
6. PSC – Interconnection Agreements
7. D2002.3.29 – DSI – Unauthorized Charges on Telephone Bills (Cramming Complaints)

8. D97.2.19, D99.3.68, D2001.1.7, and D2000.11.196 – Qwest – Interconnection Agreements
9. BDV 2002-397 (D2000.2.21) – MPSC – MPSC v. Qwest
10. FCC CC Docket No. 96-45 – PSC – Federal USF HCF Non-Rural

**Other Meetings**

**11/19/02 - 1:30 p.m. - Forum on Electric Restructuring Issues – Bollinger Room**

**11/20/02 – 9:00 a.m. – D2002.5.60 – Mountain Water Rate Increase/Tariff Hearing (Msla – TBD, MJ)**

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 8:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

**Action Items** All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. MDU Resources Group, Inc. D2002.11.138 (Eric)

On November 4, 2002, MDU applied for authority to issue over a two-year period \$750,000,000 of long-term financing in the following amounts; (1) the issuance of not to exceed \$750,000,000 of the Company's Common Stock, (2) the issuance not to exceed \$112,500,000 of the Company's Preferred Stock and/or Preferred Stock A, (3) the issuance of not to exceed \$262,500,000 of the Company's secured debt securities, (4) the issuance of not to exceed \$262,500,000 of stock purchase contracts and (5) the issuance of not to exceed \$262,500,000 of hybrid securities such as convertible or unconvertible preferred securities, putable or callable instruments. The Company seeks the flexibility to vary the maximum issuance amounts for each type of security so long as the aggregate issuance amount of all securities does not exceed \$750,000,000. The proceeds of these issuances will be used for funding the Company's capital requirements, for the refunding of its outstanding obligations, for corporate development including the acquisition of businesses or business assets and for other general corporate purposes. A default order has been drafted.

2. NorthWestern Energy DOCKET NO. D2001.1.5 (Eric)

On June 10, 2002, NWE made a filing for approval of its Electric Sale Credit pursuant to Order 6353c. This is a one year credit of \$30,000,000 plus estimated interest. At the end of one year there will be a true-up to deal with any over/under collection. This filing is based on an updated market since the time of the stipulation. At the end of one year rates will rise by the \$30,000,000 to reflect the elimination of the credit. A default order has been drafted.

**Notice Items** All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.state.mt.us/PublicComment/PublicComment.htm>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

**Information Items** All items identified below are for information only.

**Tentative Action Items for Agenda 02-11-26**

**New Filings Received in Past Week**

D2002.11.140 – NorthWestern Energy – Gas Tracker

D2002.11.141 – Montana Dakota Utilites – Application to Implement a Gas Cost Tracking Adjustment Change